



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
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Results of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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\*\*REVISED\*\*

## Pennsylvania's August Crop Forecast

HARRISBURG, PA, August 12, 2010 --- Based on August 1, 2010 forecasts for yield and production, the **Keystone State's** farmers expect to produce more barley and oats than last year. Production is expected to be below last year for winter wheat, corn for grain, soybeans, dry alfalfa hay, and other dry hay according to the Pennsylvania office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Winter wheat acres harvested totaled 155,000, which is 11 percent less than last year. The winter wheat yield as of August 1 is estimated at 61 bushels per acre, unchanged from the July 1 forecast, and up 5 bushels per acre from the final yield for 2009. The resulting winter wheat production of 9.46 million bushels is 4 percent below last year.

Barley acreage for harvest, at 50,000, is 5,000 acres more than 2009. Barley yield is forecast at 75 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels per acre from the July 1 forecast, but unchanged from a year ago. Barley production is expected to be 3.75 million bushels, 11 percent above last year's production.

Oats acreage for harvest, at 85,000, is up 5,000 acres from a year ago. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, the oat yield is forecast at 61 bushels per acre, which is unchanged from the July 1 forecast and last year's final yield. The resulting oat production of 5.19 million bushels would be 6 percent above last year.

Corn acreage to be harvested for grain at 940,000, is 20,000 acres more than 2009. Based on crop conditions as of August 1, corn yield is forecast at 132 bushels per acre, which is 11 bushels per acre below last year's yield. If realized, the corn for grain production would be 124.1 million bushels, which is 6 percent less than last year.

Soybean acreage for harvest is set at 465,000, up 20,000 acres from last year. The expected yield, based on August 1 conditions, is 43 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from 2009. Production is set at 20.0 million bushels, 2 percent below last year.

Alfalfa acreage harvested for dry hay is estimated at 450,000, down 50,000 acres from 2009. As of August 1, yield is forecast at 2.90 tons per acre, unchanged from last year. The resulting production, at 1.31 million tons, would be 10 below last year.

All other hay acres harvested for dry hay is estimated at 1,100,000, up 50,000 acres from last year. The expected yield as of August 1 of 2.00 tons per acre is down 0.1 ton per acre from 2009. Total production, at 2.20 million tons, is down only slightly from 2009.

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**United States:** Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.52 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last month and up slightly from 2009. The U.S. yield is forecast at 47.5 bushels per acre, up 0.6 bushel from last month and up 3.3 bushels from last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, trailing only 1999. The area expected to be harvested for grain totals 32.1 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 7 percent from last year.

Barley production for 2010 is forecast at 184 million bushels, up 1 percent from the previous forecast, but down 19 percent from 2009. Based on conditions as of August 1, the average yield for the U.S. is forecast at 72.3 bushels per acre, up 0.7 bushel from the July 1 forecast, but down 0.7 bushel from a year ago. While the forecasted yield per acre is down 1 percent from a year ago, the expected decline in production is more a reflection of the lowest planted acreage on record and the lowest expected harvested acreage since 1883. Area harvested for grain or seed, at 2.55 million acres, is unchanged from the previous forecast, but down 18 percent from 2009.

Oat production is forecast at 87.2 million bushels, 1 percent below the July 1 forecast and down 6 percent from 2009. If realized, this will be the lowest production on record. Based on conditions as of August 1, the yield is forecast at 66.3 bushels per acre, down 0.4 bushel from last month's forecast and down 1.2 bushels from 2009's record high yield. Growers expect to harvest 1.32 million acres for grain or seed, unchanged from last month but down 5 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the smallest harvested area on record.

Corn production is forecast at a record high 13.4 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the previous record set in 2009. Based on conditions as of August 1, yields are expected to average a record high 165.0 bushels per acre, up 0.3 bushel from last year's record of 164.7. Yield prospects are lower in both the Atlantic Coast region and Tennessee Valley due to above normal temperatures and dry conditions.

Soybean production is forecast at a record high 3.43 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 44.0 bushels per acre, unchanged from last year's record high yield. Compared with last year, yields are forecast higher across the northern tier states, with increases of 4 bushels or more in Minnesota, North Dakota, and Wisconsin. Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia are all expecting yields to be down more than 10 bushels from 2009 due to very hot and dry weather this summer. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 78.0 million acres, unchanged from June, but up 2 percent from 2009.

Production of alfalfa and alfalfa mixtures for dry hay is forecast at 72.5 million tons, up 2 percent from last year. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 3.49 tons per acre, up 0.14 ton from last year. If realized, this will be the second highest yield on record, trailing only the 3.51 tons per acres in 1999. Harvested area is forecast at 20.7 million acres, unchanged from June, but down 2 percent from the previous year's acreage.

Production of all other dry hay for 2010 is forecast at 81.4 million tons, up 7 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the second highest production level on record. Based on August 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 2.09 tons per acre, up 0.11 ton from last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield, surpassing the 2.06 tons per acre in 2004. Harvested area is forecast at 38.9 million acres, unchanged from June but up 1 percent from 2009.